

N431 Adult Health II

Clinical Reflection Form

Name: Jessica Tillman

Date: 2/12/2024

Clinical Rotation Site: Radiation

1. Briefly write about today's experience(s):

Today I had the pleasure of experiencing the radiation unit as my clinical rotation site. I was pleasantly surprised with the numerous procedures and tests that are conducted daily within this unit. I stayed busy during the entire clinical day alongside multiple nurses and assisting them with prepping patients for MRI tests, CT scans, hydration procedures, and biopsies. The ages of the patients that I assisted with were 4, 12, 67, 88, 62, and 77. I was able to watch IV placements for children that were being sedated for MRI testing, one because of a recent seizure and the second because of migraines. A patient with a pacemaker arrived for an MRI and I was able to witness the process that the nurse completes to control and monitor the pacemaker while the client is undergoing the MRI. A patient was spending a large majority of the day receiving a hydration procedure before testing could be completed later in the afternoon. And I was able to witness two biopsies/CT scans one was a bone marrow biopsy, and the other was a removal of tissue from the abdomen for testing to rule out possible cancer. I am grateful for the ability to experience multiple testing procedures and to be completely honest I just thought of radiology as MRI's, CTs, and Xray's before this clinical experience.

2. What is one thing you learned?

I found it quite interesting that patients can have a bone marrow biopsy done within their primary care physician's office. I was dumbfounded when I realized that they use a small amount of lidocaine to numb the patient's skin before placing the needle but nothing else has been numbed. This procedure may also require the use of a drill to obtain the bone marrow sample. This procedure is also provided in a hospital setting and is performed with a sterile field and complete numbing so that the patient does not undergo pain during the procedure. The nurse explained that often patients may experience the vibration of the drill when it is necessary to be used but other than that they have no complaints during the procedure.

3. What is one thing you would do differently?

During the bone marrow extraction procedure, I would have stood in a different location so that I could experience the procedure a bit closer. The procedure only took a few minutes so if I had changed locations, I would have missed a large portion of the procedure. Luckily the nurse in CT does an amazing job of explaining each step of the

process and why each step must be used within the process. If I experience another radiation rotation I will definitely ask the correct questions to ensure I am in a great location to get the full experience visually.

4. What is your major “take home” from today’s clinical experience(s)?

My major take home from today's clinical experience is to not underestimate each area of the hospital and the tedious tasks performed within each area. All areas within the hospital have multiple working parts that are utilized along with multiple other hospital areas to create a well-oiled machine. The ability to witness how each area works separately and then to step back and see the big picture of how they work together to provide the community with proper health care is amazing.

5. Is there anything else you would like to mention?

Just thank you for taking your time to assist our class with our dreams of becoming nurses within the next year, we are grateful for your time and knowledge.